

HEAD LINES

Marblehead Sail & Power Squadron -- District 18
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

Volume 26 Issue 3
September 2008

From the Helm

Cdr Daniel W. Shea, AP

As I write this article, it's hard to believe that we are seven weeks into calendar summer and Labor Day is only four weeks away! Despite the recent regular rainy periods, I hope that you have been enjoying our New England boating season and will continue to do so until really cool weather intervenes.

Elsewhere in this issue of Head Lines, you will find information about coming boating education courses and social events for the balance of this year and into 2009. I do urge all members to be mindful of the Safe Boating Course which begins on Sept. 10 at Marblehead High School. This course, which is open to the public, serves a real purpose in fulfilling our mission of boating safety and education. It is also a traditional source of new members for our Squadron, so I urge every member to recommend the Safe Boating Course to friends and neighbors who are interested in boating but not yet MSPS members.

I've been keeping track of some events, developments and publications:

TRAILS & SAILS WEEKEND – This event, sponsored by the Essex National Heritage Area, will take place over the September 26-28 weekend. Most of the 200 activities are free, including guided hikes, walks, sails, paddling, historic tours and special art happenings for all ages, skill levels and interest. Check out schedules and areas of particular by contacting the Essex National Heritage Area website essexheritage.org

WAVE OF THE FUTURE – As reported recently in the Boston Globe,

the Salem Ferry is now in its third year of operating scheduled ferry service for commuters and tourists between Salem and Boston. It doubled the number of passengers carried in 2007 to 80,000, and Salem officials believe the number will increase again this year. Many other communities, thinking ferries will play a major role in transportation in our area, are lining up to present plans for construction of piers and docks. Lynn and Winthrop are planning service to Boston, and Gloucester started a daily ferry to Provincetown in July. It certainly presents an attractive alternative to driving!

PUBLICATIONS – Two new books about our area have given me some hours of enjoyable and informative reading, and I recommend both of them to you with pleasure:

“The Last Fish Tale” by Mark Kurlansky (Ballantine Books, 2008) is a well-written story about the origins and development of Gloucester to the present day, with a focus on the evolution of the fishing industry and the many perils that beset it now. The book is filled with history that may surprise even those born in this area, engaging anecdotes, colorful characters and local recipes. Whether or not you agree with the author's conclusions, I am sure that you will find much in the book to interest you.

“Discovering the Boston Harbor Islands” by Christopher Klein (Union Park Press, 2008) presents the harbor and its thirty four islands as “Boston's Backyard.” The author presents an updated guide to each of the islands, presenting



their history, development and current availability for hiking, camping, a trip through history or simply a getaway to spend a day which affords a whole new view of Boston from the water. Certainly, any boater planning a visit to one or more of these islands will benefit hugely from the trove of valuable information presented on each of them.

Happy and safe boating to all,
Dan Shea



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2008 Executive Committee

Commander – Dan Shea, AP
781-631-1716 dshea.hrps@comcast.net

Executive Officer – Dan Himes, AP
781-990-3001 danhimes@comcast.net

Administrative Officer – Louis Schoenthal, AP
978-745-9746 Louis_Schoenthal@mksinst.com

Educational Officer – Robere Sant Fournier, P
978-922-2232 seafriendship1@verizon.net

Treasurer – Mark Peters, P
781-639-2874 mpeters66@comcast.net

Secretary – Beth Wolfe, AP
978-744-1575 emswolfe@gmail.com

Member at Large – Shawna Gauthier, S
978-979-2487 CaptainShawna@yahoo.com

Member at Large – Bill Griffin, AP
781-631-4245 bgriffin@seachangeinc.com

Member at Large – Dale Smith, AP
781-639-4022 dale.m.smith@gmail.com

Past Commander – Alexander Falk, JN
781-990-0007 al@falk.us

Head Lines

Janet Merriman, S, Managing Editor

Copy deadline is the 15th of the month preceding the issue date. Send articles, ideas and comments to janetg@theatriumdesign.com

Upcoming Courses

Here's our current 2008/2009 member course schedule. Please note that there are a number of courses starting in September – Navigation, Advanced Piloting, Seamanship. While we have exact dates, we are still working out locations. If you are interested in the September offerings please watch our web site for the very latest news.

Advanced Grade Courses

Start Date		Course	Cost	Location
Sep 16	Tues nights	Navigation	\$85	TBA
Sep 24	Wed nights	Adv Piloting	\$55	TBD
Oct 1	Wed nights	Seamanship	\$30	TBA
Jan 6	Tues nights	Piloting	\$55	TBA
April 22	Wed nights	Seamanship	\$30	TBA

Elective courses

Sep 18	Thurs nights	GPS Seminar	\$50	TBA
Jan 13	Tues nights	Marine Electronics	\$40	TBA
Jan 15	Thurs nights	Sail 102	\$30	TBA
Feb 2	Mon nights	Cruise Planning	\$40	TBA

Navigation will be offered starting Sep 16. This is the most advanced navigation course offered and taught by the USPS. The course covers advanced celestial navigation techniques, emergency navigation, and additional sight reduction techniques.

Advanced Piloting begins Sep 24 and is another important step up in the stairway to nautical education. Advanced Piloting covers more progressive coastal navigation techniques, including navigating in tides and currents, and advanced GPS usage.

Seamanship will be offered starting Oct 1. This is the first step in building boating skills. Seamanship offers basic deck seamanship, marlinspike (knots and ropes), the ever challenging art of anchoring and rafting. Also this course offers basic boat care and maintenance and the rich heritage of nautical and USPS customs and etiquette.

Marine Electronics will be offered starting January 13. The course covers installation and maintenance of both boat electrical systems (AC and DC) and marine electronics (VHF radio, radar, GPS, etc). Seawater and electronics do not mix and this course will provide you with worthwhile knowledge on how to keep the two separated!

Sail will be offered starting Jan 15. This course covers everything from how a sailboat works to sail trim, rig tuning, and racing. Perhaps the high cost of fuel has given you thoughts of sail as not only a renewable source of energy, but very green!

We cannot predict how hard a winter it will be, but by the time February arrives we look anxiously to launching. On Feb 2 we will offer Cruise Planning, a course guaranteed to chase the winter blues away. This course covers planning a cruise – whether just a weekend or for a year – it includes preparation, anchoring, security, chartering, and cruising outside U.S. territorial waters.

Registration and payment for course materials will be required at least 2 weeks prior to the seminar. Because Education is a major corner stone of the USPS we will entertain any class or seminar that you might be interested in but is not scheduled above. Send your ideas to SEO Robere Sant Fournier at seafriendship1@verizon.net.

SEO Message

Robere Sant Fournier, P

I was hailed by what I call a Go Fast vessel, at least I could hear the dollars actually going up in smoke as he idled close aboard. He wanted to know how to get to Marblehead, we were presently by Can 13 in Salem Sound. I knew the way by heart, but still I always use a chart because there is a safe passage there.

Well this gentleman was impatient, "listen Dude, just point."

All sorts of moral obligations clouded my mind. A direct course from Can 13, Salem Sound to the entrance of Marblehead Harbor, dicey at best, but like a motorcyclist he gunned the engine a few times and I got the point....I pointed!

I tried to justify that at least some boatyard was in for a pretty good repair job. The harbormaster(s) were in for a practice tow and dewatering routine, and given how speedy boatyards are

with repairing boats, the nation was going to save a lot of fuel by not having this vessel loose. I would have had one more recommendation, take a Squadron Boating Course, but a haze of money, no, I mean smoke and a rapidly diminishing roaring sound was all that was left.

Perhaps you know people in your yacht club, or dock mates, or even your land lubber neighbors who would benefit from our Fall Squadron Boating Course which starts on Wednesday, September 10 at 7pm. It will be held at the Marblehead High School on four Wednesday nights, October 1 will not meet, and the final night will be Wednesday October 8.

I have delved through various books in my nautical library and still have not come across the word "Dude" although one came close relating that a Dude might be a rhinestone admiral!

Upcoming Seminars

GPS Seminar

Date: Thursday, September 18

Description: A one night seminar in using GPS explains the principles of waypoint navigation and the relationship between GPS and your charts which provides essential information about what is around you.

You will learn to operate a GPS, what buttons to push, what screens show, and how to access the functions you need. A handheld GPS will be used as a demonstration model. You will get a copy of the USPS GPS Guide and a waterproof McGraw-Hill Captain's Quick Guide Using GPS.

How to Buy or Sell a Boat

Location: Yardarm, Boston Yacht Club

Date: Saturday, October 18 2008

Time: 1:00- 3:00 PM

Fee: \$5.00

Faculty: Experts in Boat Surveying, Financing and Insurance, Boatyard Facilities, Safety and Education.

Description: The presentation is open to the public. A light lunch will be served. There will be programs for children to include Safe Boating films, coloring books, PFD race etc. There will be a raffle and gifts for the attendees. The program is for the entire family.

Pre registration: Claire Gerrish
978-532-1861 claire@burkeinsagcy.com
Merrill Feldman 781-598-5935
mfeld@massmed.org

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Fall Outing: Boston on the Ferry

Please join us on our second annual excursion to Boston on the Salem Ferry on Friday October 3. We will meet on the ferry prior to its 6:10pm departure and return on the 10:00pm ferry, arriving back in Salem at 10:45. For those of you who haven't taken the ride, it's great, fast and the landing is at the Aquarium, right in the midst of all the happenings in Boston. That schedule will give us 2 ½ hours or so to get a bite to eat and walk around the North End, Quincy Market and Fanueil Hall. No reservation required, just show up and meet us on the ferry. The off season tickets are \$9.00 each way per person. Go to saalemferry.com for more information or contact Administrative Officer, O Lou Schoenthal.

November Social Meeting

Next time you get out your calendar, save November 13 at MYC for a social meeting featuring group discussion of Carribean Charters lead by your Administrative Officer and several members of the Marblehead and Beverly Squadrons.

I'm sure members of the MSPS have many more experiences to share with the group then the discussion leaders do, so please bring your pictures, and memories with you. If you would like to have some slides or pictures included in the (short) formal presentation you can email them to the AO at agfarose@aol.com with a cover email. We are also going to try to get a local chartering company to come in and share some ideas with us. If you know anyone I could contact, please email the AO.

December Holiday Dinner Meeting

While your calendar is out, mark Thursday December 4 for our annual dinner, this year at BYC. Stay tuned for details in future issues of Head Lines. The speaker will be Eric Dolin, author of Leviathan, History of Whaling in America. There will be more details and sign up information in future issues of Head Lines.

What I Did On My Summer Vacation

Mark Peters, P

I was a bit skeptical at first, and didn't know what to expect from my first cruise. We brought lots of gear, and lots of sunscreen. At 29 feet, the ship was very large. A draft of 29 feet to be more precise! Although my ideal cruise would be on a Pacific Seacraft sailing around Tahiti, or even along the coast of Maine, I kept an open mind and was looking forward to a new adventure.

My wife Evonne, daughter Michelle (14), and son Daniel (12) were ocean-bound on the *Mariner of the Seas*, a 1,020 foot long, 138,000 gross ton cruise ship run by Royal Caribbean. One of the largest cruise ships on the ocean, we were about to experience quite a vacation. The cruise to the Bahamas, St. Thomas, and St. Maarten was a family event, with my wife's parents, her brother Gene, and his wife and two kids enjoying the voyage as well. We would be able to enjoy each other's company, visit new ports of call, and the four cousins could have a great time together.

On a ship this size, there is certainly something for everyone. In addition to the pools, we enjoyed the indoor ice-skating rink (really), a rock-climbing wall, in-line skating, mini-golf, fitness center, and a full-size basketball court. For entertainment, there were quite good shows every night, along with nightclubs with jazz and salsa, and a casino for those that felt lucky. The ice show topped it all, especially since we were underway to St. Maarten at 22 knots through fairly large swells.

At the helm of this tremendous ship was Captain Johnny Faevelen, a native of an island off the coast of northern Norway who grew up working on his father's 50-foot shrimp trawler. A friendly character, he attends events and answers questions, even while seated on his Harley Davidson on the pier before taking off to tour St. Maarten. He said

that he is frequently asked whether his wife sails with him, and he replies, "only for two weeks, since the ship can't stand to have two captains for any longer."

Each morning you would hear Johnny start with "Good MOOOOrning everyone!" in his funny Norwegian accent, before updating the passengers on plans for the day and updates on any delays, such as one that resulted from a medical emergency.



The *Mariner of the Seas* is one of Royal Caribbean's Voyager class of cruise ships, which were the largest until about two years ago. Launched in 2003, the ship can carry over 3,000 passengers, and has a cruising speed of 22 knots. The ship's length is 1,020 feet, the beam is 157.5 feet, and the draft is 29 feet.

The ship's six engines are over three stories high, and have an output of 75,600kw (which translates into lots of horsepower, trust me). In addition, it has three azimuthing 14MW Azipod units (two side units are fully azimuthing, while the center unit is fixed), and four 3MW bow thrusters. Azimuthing thrusters allow the propeller to turn 360 degrees, allowing the thrusters to fill the dual roles of propulsion and steering. This technology will allow the ship to stay positioned without anchoring in eco-sensitive areas in most normal weather conditions.

With more than 3,000 passengers, along with another 1,000 or so crew, there were bound to be lines at some of the events and at the buffet tables. But it was more manageable than I had imagined. The ports of call in the Bahamas, St. Thomas, and St. Maarten were wonderful, and allowed us to snorkel, relax on the beach, and sample some local cuisine. On board, we enjoyed a number of family-friendly events in addition to the stage shows.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of the cruise was the ability for our group of ten family members to dine together in the three-tiered dining room. We had the same table each night at 6 pm, and our waiters S.K. and Leopold provided exceptional service throughout the cruise. They were also entertainers – at one point S.K. balanced eight forks on a toothpick in a cork.

At Gene's suggestion, we all woke up early on Saturday morning (3 am to be exact) in order to view the stars in the darkness of the heliport on the front of the ship. The stars were brilliant, with the milky way stretched across the sky. We were looking for the shooting stars, since there was a meteor shower, and the kids were soon spotting them right and left.

As if to frame the perfect view, there was a storm developing on the horizon about twenty miles off, with impressive lightning flashes across the bow. A memorable experience, and perhaps made a bit more memorable for the kids with a dip in the pool, and a cookie from the all-night restaurant before returning to bed.

Although I enjoyed the vacation immensely, and admire Captain Johnny and his skills at piloting ships the size of aircraft carriers, I also remain content as captain of a boat with a length less than his ship's draft.

Lynn Marine Supply Re-opens Under New Ownership

Dan Himes, AP

Jim Norgaard took the reigns of Marblehead's internationally renowned ships' chandlery, "Lynn Marine Supply," this past spring. Founded by Captain Jack Foss in 1954, the store has been on Front Street in Marblehead since 1957. Marblehead has long been a destination port for both cruising and racing sailors from around the world, and Lynn Marine Supply is well known in those circles.



Jim wants to make sure that the chandlery remains known to local boaters, too. "We recognize and respect groups such as the Marblehead Sail and Power Squadron, and are happy to provide a discount program for its members," he said. Lynn Marine Supply currently offers a 15% discount on merchandise and honors the 20% discount on MapTech products that MapTech extends to members.

Furthermore, even though he only purchased the store in April and it officially reopened on Memorial Day, he has already supported the Swampscott Youth Sailing program, the Joan Thayer's Women's sailing program in Marblehead, the North Shore Hospice, the Marblehead Great Race, and is one of the top sponsors of the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet New England Championships (www.phrfne.org) in Marblehead.

For the past 10 years the store was owned and run by Bowdie Crowninshield, who started looking hard for a successor last year. Bowdie wanted to make sure that the store was in good hands and would maintain the respect it has earned from boaters around the world. "I have met sailors this summer from Europe, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. All have been in the old store at one time or another," said Jim. The business is now located just across the street from where it was ("a little closer to the water") at Tucker's Wharf.

Lynn Marine Supply currently offers a 15% discount on merchandise and honors the 20% discount on MapTech products that MapTech extends to members.

Upon entering the store I couldn't help but be impressed by how well kept it is and how much work went into getting the merchandise in order. In addition to what came with the store from Bowdie, he has added a great deal of new merchandise and equipment. Like all business owners in downtown Marblehead, Jim has to be creative with how he uses his space. But it's easy to find charts, professional foul-weather gear, safety equipment like flares and pfd's, shoes, and of course rope and hardware. He's obviously working hard to make the store an even better resource for the boating community, including commercial fishermen, racers and cruisers.

He is also reworking the website (www.lynnmarinesupply.com) into a full online store that will display what is in the physical store, and eventually allow for ordering as well.

As far as selecting what to carry in the store, you can be sure that he won't be intimidated by the new technologies available to boaters. Jim was formerly

Vice President of Engineering and Product Development for a company that makes environmental monitoring equipment. He and his wife Kathleen are also sailors having, sailed the Great Lakes and the Newport area. Although the demands of the new business will probably keep them off the water this season, they are looking forward to getting back out on the water next summer.

They are also looking forward to planning programs helpful to the boating community in terms of basic marine education, boat handling, and other training programs that they can run "hands-on." "We believe in supporting sailing and boating programs in the community. Next year, when we have a more organized approach to the season, we will look for more local community programs where we can help support their efforts," Jim said.

Finally, if you are wondering what is to become of the CBYC: "The CBYC is an old Marblehead institution and I will keep it going in the spirit in which it was originally set up...that is, saving money and having fun!"



Information for Members

Congress Passes Permanent Water Discharge Exemption for Recreational Boats

On July 22, 2008 Congress passed the Clean Boating Act of 2008 that permanently exempts pleasure boats from the requirement of having a discharge permit for cooling, water and other discharges. The President signed the bill soon thereafter.

If this bill had not passed by the September 2008 deadline, the permit program would have gone into effect that would have required a permit for each boat owned. BoatUS credited its 650,000 members and the NMMA for its work in informing legislators of the issues and pushing the legislation.

Family Picnic at Devereaux Beach

Lou Schoenthal, AP

Twenty-four squadron members and guests turned out on the one dry day in August for our first annual family picnic. Amazingly there were no storms or even rain predicted on August 13. The weather was partly cloudy, with temperature in the mid 70s.

The fare consisted of hot dogs and burgers with chips, salads and cookies. The grills were expertly attended by Cmd. Dan Shea assisted by Lou Schoen-

thal and Dan Himes. The only issues were getting the charcoal going in the 12 knot sea breeze. It's amazing how you have to relearn charcoal cooking after 20 years of instant propane grills!

Unfortunately, all attendees were graphically challenged so we don't have pictures to share, but next year we will remedy the situation. Thanks to all who attended.

Annual Spring Dinner Meeting

Lou Schoenthal, AP

Going to the Corinthian Yacht Club is always a distinct pleasure. Going to the CYC for a great meal and presentation is even better! Upon arrival, most of our members thought the entire squadron was attending because the parking lot was full and the on-street parking was backed up several blocks. It turns out that a major offshore race had just finished and most of the people were there for the after race party.

The presentation by Steven Gagin about his dive on the RMS Titanic was exceptional. Steve won the trip in a contest! When he was called to say he won, he thought it was a prank and after real-

izing this was for real, he checked out the reputation of the Russian ship before committing. The actual vertical trip to the Titanic was in a small submersible that took several hours to complete the dive. I guess Steve isn't claustrophobic! The images of the ship were spectacular.

As for the meal, how can you beat prime rib! And a special thanks to Dave Graham for organizing the event.



If you missed it, you missed a great meal and presentation. Plan on joining us for the Holiday Party at the Boston Yacht Club.





Thank you to our Friends of MSPS:

To all our friends and shipmates in MSPS,
 We wish you all ---
 Fair winds,
 Calm seas,
 Safe passages, and endless
 Warm and Rose-colored sunsets.
 Cathy Mae Tomasello and Al Goldstein, P

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 T 800 695 2251
 F 617 946 4376
 jory_berkwits@mml.com



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Upcoming Events: Mark your calendar

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24	Advanced Piloting	Jan	
		6	Piloting
Oct		13	Marine Electronics
1	Seamanship	15	Sail 102
3	Fall Outing: Ferry to Boston		
18	How to Buy or Sell a Boat	Feb	
		2	Cruise Planning
Nov			
13	November Social Meeting	April	
		22	Seamanship

Head Lines Boosters

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Robert Sant Fournier

Howard M. Knight

Susan & Brian Schanning

Joan Thayer

Skip Whittaker

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